

CHILLER 31

Magazine Issue Two



HORROR HOSTS:
COUNT GORE DE VOL
MR. LOBO
LORD BLOOD-RAH

THE LISBURN CASTLE
GHOST OF
NORTHERN
IRELAND

URBAN LEGENDS
DRINK RECIPES

WINTER PHOTOGRAPHY

GHOSTS OF CHRISTMAS

December

CHILLER 31

Issue 3

On the cover-Laura Dark Photography

Model: Brianna Jannett MUA: Deanne Roberts for Makeup Artist

Hair: Syntactic Rebellion. Wardrobe: Outfitters Costumes

Back Cover—VL Photography

Model: Adam Devney



Features

Redboots Photography: Discover The Lisburn Castle Ghost of Northern Ireland

Kern Jean Photography: Resurrect The Ghosts of Christmas (A Christmas Carol)

Horror Hosts: Get to know Count Gore De Vol, Mr. Lobo & Lord Blood-Rah

Urban Legend: Roney's Point

Christmas Rituals Story: By Daniel Moore

Foxy's Top Five Christmas Horror Movies

Drink of the Month

Area 51 APP Review

Winter Photography

Traditions of Ghost Stories on Christmas

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EDITOR'S NOTE

"There'll be scary ghost stories"

And tales of the glories of

Christmases long, long ago"

From the Andy Williams classic "It's The Most Wonderful Time of the Year". A long lost Victorian tradition on Christmas Eve, telling stories of specters, was as common as telling the story of Santa Claus. This issue is filled with images and stories of "Ghosts of Christmas".

Christmas is a time of story telling and presentation, and what better way to demonstrate this, but with some horror hosts that present our haunts throughout the year which you will also find in this edition.

We present to you our Winter Edition of Chiller 31 Magazine.

This Christmas, carry on the tradition and read one of our ghost stories and you will be as excited as this little boy in the chair photographed in 1910!





Photographer: David Lachapelle

Model: Kristen Jeanneau

MUA: Elizabeth Roberts

HAIR: Synthetic Reptiles

WEARABLE: Burlesque Couture Couture

VL Photography

Model/Makeup Artist: Jessica Nemethov





Photograph: Spring Photography
Model/Makeup: Lucy J.



Darren Labiak & Jennifer Vallee Labiak - VL Photography

Model/Makeup : Jemi Baby

Wardrobe: Rockabilly's clothing In Victoria B.C

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Located in Victoria on Vancouver Island British Columbia



A Q&A WITH HORROR HOST
MR. LOBO



• How did you get into the Horror Host profession?

Sometimes you get into something and sometimes it gets into you. I grew up on Bob Wilkins as the host of "Creature Features" in Northern CA. As an adult I wrote and did some art for PLANET X a sci-fi/pop culture magazine that featured an interview with Bob. The publisher was a 16mm film collector who liked my humor—and we did these shows at bars and parties around town, where Scott would present a film and I would host it as a silly character—Basically for GasFood money. We had a big show to launch the magazine at a upscale nightclub—and Bob Wilkins came out and hosted it in person and I was stage director and wrote some jokes for Bob. That night Bob suggested that I get out in a chair and host movies. I sheepishly changed the subject but secretly wished for it—I had been playing around with the idea of making a show with a pal who worked at the local ABC TV station. 4 years later, I was working at that station in the production department and they had a movie at 3 AM that ran 20 minutes short. I offered to fill that time—and they allowed me and let me have staff and studio time on the weekends which were usually slow. We hit the ground running and made 24 weekly episodes in a row—and by episode 13, I wanted to keep doing this no matter what.

• At what age or time in your life did this career become a serious interest for you?

I wanted to have a TV show since I was a teenager. But the opportunity at the TV station came when I was 30. Soon after—once I saw that people actually liked what I was doing, made me realize I could make a career out of it.

• Tell us about your current projects, shows?

We just did our most ambitious Halloween Special ever for ZOM-BEE TV—a free horror channel for ROKU. It was called the CINEMA INSOMNIA HAUNTED HOUSE SPECIAL, and it features myself and 4 other Horror Hosts in a "Real" Haunted House. It is our first national sponsor PINE SHOTS threat drops—in we had a decent budget and built sets made among props and involved the best talent we could. Dick Dyzzel(Court Gores DeVol-Creature Feature), John Demes(Dr Sardikay-Spooky Movie), Jerry Moon(Karlos Boroff-Monster Madness), Rich Kaz(Swengoolie) play supporting roles as "Paranoid Investigators." My wife Diane and I did all the art direction and we had amazing technical support from ZOM-BEE TV producer Dale Jackson.

My wife and I have a side project an online magazine based on our print publication HORROR HOSTS AND CREATURE FEATURES. We write about all kinds of things that pertain to the Horror Host lifestyle.

"Mr. Lobo" had several acting roles in some indie genre movies coming out "MATT MERCURY", "IT CAME FROM TRAFALGAR", "MIDNIGHT SHOW" and the remake of "Plan Nine from Outer Space" called PLAN 9

I have two audio projects on AMAZON and ITUNES. "HALLOWEEN CANDY" a novelty song I recorded in 2007 with the band APOCALYPSO NOW and a BRAND NEW 20 track album of original spoken word and sound effects called HORRIBLE NOISES OF MR LOBO'S VERY BAD MANOR

I am working on some collected writings for an E Book next year. And making new episodes of CINEMA INSOMNIA for ZOM-BEE TV.

* Can you tell us about your work in comics?

I was an editorial cartoonist and won awards. I did a Weekly comic strip in a paper called the Magpie in Sacramento. In 1990 I made several zines. Then in 1991 I made a post-apocalypse humor comic called NUKE NOWA ADVENTURES IN THE RUST AGE. It was full color and distributed nationally through Diamond and Capital distributors. I had some submissions published in other books. In 1995 I made an anthology with some other writers/artists called FUNNY PAGES. This was distributed through TOWER books world wide and so was its two sequels—FUNNY PAGES 2D and FUNNY PAGES 2X. I wrote two QUEEN OF TRASH comic book in 2007-2008 illustrated Myself, Byron Brown, and Aaron Farmer—the second was full color. I wrote 13 HDBTS—a comic about current horror hosts for artist Brian Mezzi. I did a one pager for HOT ZOMBIE CHICKS. I enjoy Comics and still read them from time to time. Every once in a while I get pulled back in to do art or write for them.

* What are the biggest challenges you face in this industry?

Content, Distribution, and Marketing. TV Horror Hosts traditionally host horror movies. In the old days TV stations had film packages like the Shock package and Creature Feature package that gave each station a library of films that they had a limited license to. Hosts were needed to present these films and create a conse-

tent audience. A lot of modern hosts are independent producers and rely on mostly public domain or royalty free films. Recently the rights issues to PD films have got murkier and murkier and policy like the Millennium Digital Copyright Act has allowed interested parties and corporations who have claims to shut a show down—right or wrong. Technical requirements are much higher now as well—distributors and viewers expect clearer sharper prints of films and TV specifications are higher as well. For a show to really break through on a large network would need to incur the costs of Closed Captioning, Errors and Omissions Insurance, HD, a stereo mix, and securing the rights to the content they are presenting. The fragmentation of the audience makes it distribution and marketing difficult. Presenting CINEMA INSOMNIA ROKU has allowed me to sidestep this and the channel ZOM-BEE TV believes in the show and is putting re-



sources into the show as well as bringing us up to technical speccs

* Who/What are your biggest inspirations and mentors?

Bob Wilkins, of course. He was the host I watched as a kid and a constant source of inspiration. He gave me continuing advice and assistance as an adult. He even wrote the station and told them to keep me on the air. He actually did mentor and advise as long as his health permitted. He died in 2008. Rod Serling—The story-teller and special narrator is another person I identify strongly with—but just through his work. I would love to expand into a *Twilight Zone* kind of format. I have tons of stories and ideas for stories.

Throw in some Alfred Hitchcock, William Castle, Douglas Adams, Terry Gilliam, Dr. Seuss, and Mr. Rogers... and you're getting there.

On a more personal note, I am inspired and motivated by many people along the way. Right now, in my life my wife Oree who is an artist and producer is a constant source of inspiration.

* Who are some of the best talents you have met or had an opportunity to work with?

My favorite record was a Spider-Man Rock Opera called BEYOND THE GRAVE—the producer/singer for the music on that was RON DANTE of THE ARCHIES career fame. I was amazingly lucky to make the song I'M WATCHING TV for CINEMA INSOMNIA with him and SCOTT MOON of the 80's band BOURGEOUS TAGGE. ERNIE FOGELLIUS of HARWARE WARS fame, who voiced many Lucasfilm characters and was a founding member of CINCO BOINBO, directed several episodes and did live shows with me. I also did 2 live shows and a panel with CASSANDRA PETERSEN AKA ELVIRA. Recently as I said before, I got to do my Halloween special with several of the Top Horror Hosts working today. Of course, I also got to interview BRUCE CAMPBELL, SIO HAIG, TOM SAVINI and many other horror personalities on CINEMA INSOMNIA. I was a second unit director on TEC V MIKELSHIM and had the pleasure work with Ted to direct my friend JOSHUA GRANNE as PEACHES

CHRIST. Stayed at a bed and breakfast with film directors TOM HOLLAND and LLOYD KAUFMAN and over breakfast conversations discovered they are two brilliant men. I could go on and on.

* If you had to experience being chased by a movie monster or movie maniac in reality, who would you prefer to run from your life front?

The Blob. Mr. Lobo does it every year when he helps host the "run out" re-enactment at the Colonial Theatre for their annual BLOBFEST.

* What do you say to young people trying to get into the same industry?

There is no wrong way to do it. Host movies at the local coffee house if that's the only place that they will let you. Every day you host horror or host something as a horror character—you are a horror host. And every day you don't—you're not. It's a great hobby and a great job if you are lucky and talented and persistent enough to get someone to pay you to do it.

* Do you have any favorite Christmas stories?

Any version of a Christmas Carol is classically macabre—it has Ghosts, Time Travel, and The Grim Reaper. I hosted "Scrooge" once and was visited by the Ghosts of Horror Hosts past, present, and future.

Every year back in California, I hosted the Mexican film Santa Claus that we call "SANTA VS SATAN" before a live audience for a event called CRAPPY CHRISTMAS presented by MOVIES ON A BIG SCREEN. It was a fun wild packed show that I might possibly miss this year. Now that I live on the East Coast, But I suppose if they miss me as much as I miss them, they can tune in to CINEMA INSOMNIA on ZOM-BEE TV on ROUJ or LOBOVISION TV online and watch MR. LOBO host SANTA CLAUS CONQUERS THE MARTIANS!

Visit Mr. Lobo at <http://www.cinemainsomnia.com/>

<http://www.lobovision.tv/>

Follow on Twitter @MasterLobo



CHRISTMAS RITUALS

BY
DANIEL MOORE



For eleven months of the year, every year, we ignore one another. Mom works till six. Dad works till five. Monday through Wednesday she has yoga and tennis practices which keep her out till eight. Every day after work, dad goes to the gym and runs errands. They rush through the front door and run to the shower to wash away whatever it is they want to keep secret. They end the day by hiding in separate rooms and wait for fatigue to take them to sleep.

My parents walk through the halls of this house like exhausted ghosts. I don't remember when they last looked at me or talked to me. My friends, the others, they say their homes are the same. I figure it must be contagious.

When the middle of December rolls around, their patterns change, their attitudes shift; they become different people. Mom leaves work early and shows up with bags from different stores and crossed-out shopping lists. Yoga and tennis fade away and her nights become about wrapping boxes and online shopping. Dad takes time off from work and arranges the house. He hangs up lights, changes the linens into holiday colors, and tests out his cooking skills for the big day. They change our house into a home that almost feels it for a family. But they still ignore me, they ignore my friends. They don't see us here. The years change, but they treat me the same.

It's December 22nd, and Dad is busy testing a recipe for eggnog while looking up tips on lighting from his cell phone, because what good is decorating the house if everyone on the block isn't constantly aware of it?

By batch four, he's confident he's got it right. Dad sips from the cup until he's satisfied. Then,

he takes a glass to mom. She refuses—always playfully—and says something about her weight and holiday pounds. That doesn't work on dad. Like always, mom tastes it and loves it and tells him so. Dad loves hearing it and he kisses her for telling him. The fluctuation—I get sick. I pound my head against the wall. It's my way of asking them to stop, but it doesn't work. My parents act like they don't hear me.

Dad takes the black bag of salt and walks outside. He circles the house twice, lining all the doors and frames of every window. He does it at 11:43 p.m., every night for weeks. Mom kills the time by reading from old leather-bound books. They smell musty and slightly of mildew. She reads aloud in something that sounds to me like Spanish, and keeps doing it until Dad is done.

My parents sleep in the same bed for the first time in weeks. He drops his head on her chest and she cradles him in her arms. They sleep with the door open. It's like the display was for me to see.

It's the 23rd, and they spend even more time together. All the shopping and preparations are done. They do nothing but sit on the couch and watch home movies of old Christmases. The marathon began with my first. Mom and Dad watched younger versions of themselves parade me around the house, tickled that I enjoyed being surrounded by new things. They fill up on drinks and stay in their pajamas. They curl up together beneath an old quilt. The show stops at year sixteen and the reminiscing comes to an end.

I turn on a radio for my friends. They wanted something light and soft. I tell them to forget that, and blast the heaviest CD I can find. Dad

doesn't let track two start before he comes up and shuts it off. He looks at all of us. He looks right through us. He laughs, short and dry, then shuts it off and walks away. No matter how many times I turn on the radio, he always comes back to my room and turns it off with a smile. After the sixth try I give up.

Mom and Dad end the night with a bag of salt and a reading of Spanish. They fall asleep holding each other. I try to close the door, but it's too heavy.

Christmas Eve starts with Mom stuffing the tree with boxes she spent hours wrapping. Dad man-

ages in the kitchen and makes phone call after phone call. The conversations are boring. I drift away from them both, floating up the stairs. I feel drained and empty.

Most of my day was spent on the roof with the others. It was snowing harsh and fast. Every driveway down the block was buried under inches of the white stuff. Wind whipped by angrily, shaking dried branches. Clouds were thin and wispy, highlighting the low-hanging sun. I don't mind the cold; I don't even feel it. I just look at the purple horizon, watching the light melt away with the early evening.

Then, I see the black car. I know who drives it. I hate him, and I don't want to see him. He stops at our door and it angers me. I pound on the roof, rocking the ceiling fans and chandeliers in their room. I can hear them. My parents block me out.

The man enters our home like he does every year on this day. His black clothes and purple sash make me think of a man playing priest. He hides his face behind a handlebar mustache and black glasses. I can tell mom doesn't like him, but she's polite.

The dining room is set up for tomorrow's big dinner, but dad outdid himself for his guest. They serve the man ham and potatoes and glass after glass of wine. When they finished, they brought him offerings of cake and coffee. They offered me nothing. I didn't care. The sight of him made me nervous.

When his stomach was full and cheap conversations were exhausted, the man made a simple gesture to dad and they leave the table for the backyard. Mom, without saying a word, goes to



her room and gets her book.

I heard them all, talking, reading, chanting aloud. Their voices said something foreign that drove knives into my ears. I hit the walls with my fists, trying to get their attention. I switched on the radio and played different songs simultaneously. Mom just read. She sat on her bed crying and reading.

The man led the way. Dad poured salt all over the house. The man read from his little black book and gestured with his hands. I hear it surrounding me, enveloping my ears. I screamed. He reacted by reading louder, telling dad to spread more salt. Now I hate them both.

I slam every door I can find. The bathroom, the closets, my parent's room—every door was splintered after I pulled it closed. Their words get louder and they penetrated deeper. I take the others and we retreat to my room. Here we were furthest from their noise.

The strange language got closer. I yelled back, telling them to stay away. I told them it hurts, I told them I'm in pain. But they continued to speak. My hands shouted back. Our combined voices shook the holiday lights off the windows and shattered the ornaments on the tree.

The men forced the door open. I throw everything at him. Every pillow, picture frame, and scrap of junk I've collected throughout my life goes from my hands to his head. The man dodged everything I threw at him. He developed agility over the last year.

Dad ushers him in and he speaks more. Dad pours salt around my bed and it burns my skin. I run off and the others follow.

Mom sobbed on the bed. She read in between gasps of air. I called out to her, begging her to make them stop. She ignored me. Ignored the things I threw at her from the dresser. The others walked at her, trying to get her attention. I took the lipstick from the nightstand. I went to the mirror and wrote, "Tell him to get He's not welcome here!" Mom looked up. She read the mirror three times over. For the first time in a year, she saw me. For the first time in a year she smiled.

Cheers filled the house when dad saw what I wrote. The man I hate looked at them both and walked out of our home.

I was left exhausted. I collapsed on the floor.

I woke up on Christmas day, wrapped warmly in my bed. I'm starving and freezing for what felt like the first time. I only seemed to get hungry or uncomfortable on that day.

My friends were gone. I knew they'd be back in time. We can't stay away from each other long.

I tiptoed past my parents' room. Their bed is made and the mess cleaned up.

A plate of tree-shaped pancakes, dotted with red and green berries, waited for me on the dining table. Dad smiled at me. Mom rushed around the table and hugged me. She was manic, telling me all the things we'd have to do before the day is done.

Though it seemed pointless, I was happy. I knew this state was temporary. I knew they'd spend another year separate, secretly counting down the days until they acknowledge me again. I just wanted to have that day like it should be. I just wished there were more like it before I died.

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Photographer: Laura Dark

Model: November Sage

MBUA: Deanna Roberts

Hair: Synthetic Fabellon



Photographer: Redrum
Collaboration

Model: Tesia J

MUAH: Julianne Ulrich



Mask Maker

Vincent Cantillon

Costume Designer



Models: Michelle Berra, Dianne Gonzales & Anita Joy

*Photographers: Alkaia Veritas,
JRPC & Paul Miller*

*Masks are available on Etsy, shop
name is Vincent Cantillon*

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Vincent-Cantillon-Art/158842780829760>

MEET LORD BLOOD-RAH





• How did you get into the Horror Host profession?

A combination of dumb luck and encouragement, really. Good friends of the family own the Chouinard Winery in Castro Valley, Ca. and they had decided to do a sci-fi/horror film event. I told them that they should get a host for it and suggested one. The show came off well, but there was a good deal of miscommunication and expectations that weren't met on the hosts end. The next day I was sitting in my kitchen with my friend Damian Chouinard who is the wine maker and my wife, Chris. Damian said he wanted to do another one the following year but with another host and could I suggest one. I said I really didn't know of any then my wife turned to me and said, "Why the hell don't you do it?"

That following year, 2009, I hosted my first show. A showing of Roger Corman's original *The Little Shop of Horrors* at the winery and have been doing a series of shows there every September since as well as branching out into other venues, podcasts, hosting the Drunken Zombie International Horror Film Festival in Peoria, IL for four years running and now the TV series.

• At what age or time in life did this career become a serious interest for you?

NOW! lol. This time of life. I started in 2009 and have been amazed at the doors that have opened for me. If someone told me ten years ago that I'd be a horror host doing live shows and a TV series I would have asked them for a shot of whatever they were drinking!

I've always loved horror and science fiction films, growing up watching Creature Features hosted by Bob Wilkins in the SF Bay Area, and loved horror hosts in general, but it was never a goal or dream of mine to be one! I just feel lucky that I've had the opportunity to share films that I love with an audience.

• Tell us about your current projects and Nerve Wrackin' Theatre

Lord Blood-Rah's Nerve Wrackin' Theatre is the name of both my TV show and my live shows. On the TV show, I try to give information on the movies as well as comment on the action going on as though I'm watching the film right along with the audience - pointing out odd or amusing things and building on those hopefully in an entertaining way. The first season has just wrapped up, which included Bela Lugosi's *The Apo Man*, Vincent Price's *The Last Man on Earth*

and The Monster. The second season goes into production in Mid December.

It can be seen in CA on KCTH Comcast 27 and AT&T U-Verse Channel 99 Friday Nights at 10:30pm and streamed live on U-Stream

In Peoria, IL it's on WAOE My5B Saturday nights at Midnight and, this just in, it PREMIERED in Fort Wayne , In on MyTV Fort Wayne Saturday, 11/9 at 11pm⁴. Hopefully more cities and stations to come

It's also on The Vortexx and The Monster Channel online streaming horror channels . Check the listings for times

In the live shows I'm not constrained to show public domain films so I've hosted classics like Frankenstein (31), King Kong (33)

Dr Phibes (71) and many more

I also do a podcast called Lord Blood-Rah's Nerve Wrackin' Auditorium in which I host old time horror radio shows. It's part of the Drunken Zombie Podcasting Network at drunkenzombie.com or on iTunes under Drunken Zombie

* What are the biggest challenges you face in this industry?

The public domain minefield! Researching and confirming to the best of your knowledge that the film you host, at least on TV is public domain. There are a lot of sights out there that purport to know, but really will lead you wrong. It always pays to check with the copywriter office website

For live shows, where I can host any film I want to as long as the rights are affordable, it's

finding the sweet spot of cost effective promotion. Getting the word out.

* Who/What are your biggest inspirations and mentors?

Bob Wilkins, host of Creature Features In the '70's Just plain Geek Cool! Unassuming guy with glasses and a cigar with a desert dry wit. Just brilliant!

Of course Zachery is an inspiration. Great style and rambling improvisation. I have several of his DVDs and tapes and can watch them for hours

On the live end locally we have Wil 'The Thrill' Ward who hosted Thrillville for many years in the Bay Area. His shows were a combination of horror/sci-fi/exploitation films with music and burlesque acts. He was the gold standard of live film events with his signature fez and cool smoking jacket! He's retired from hosting now and has become quite a successful author with his books "A Mermaid Drowns in the Midnight Lounge" and "Love Stories are too Violent For Me "

The New Parkway Theater in Oakland, Ca has Thrillville Theater every Sunday Night which Wil programs and runs. He no longer hosts, except for special events, and has a series of "co-hosts", horror host from around the Bay Area to host various films. I've done many shows there, and in June Wil is turning the Sunday night shows over to me, when it will become Lord Blood-Rah's Nerve Wrackin' Theatre! I'll be hosting 2 shows a month and bringing in co-hosts as well

* Who are some of the best talents you have met or had an opportunity to work with?

I've worked several times with Tom Wysch, the archivist of Creature Features and a great film maker. He wrote and directed the documentary 'Watch Horror Films, Keep America Strong: A Journey Into Creature Features' and has had major hits with documentaries on the old San Francisco amusement park "Playland at the Beach" and "Sutro", the story of the Sutro Baths an old SF attraction.

Speaking of Creature Features, I've co-hosted with John Stanley, the host of Creature Features after Bob Wilkins left and an author/director and film expert. A great and gracious man who has been very encouraging.

It also blows me away that I've become good friends with Johnny Legend! Rare film archivist, musician, entertainer, wrestling promoter...the guy has done it all! We've co-hosted a number of shows together and he will make an appearance on the second season of my TV show.

Then there's Eric Yee. He's a really talented costume maker/costume performer who has been a great help in every facet of what I do! He's appeared on the TV show and has played various characters in my live shows from Audrey the man Eating Plant to the Creature from the Black Lagoon's cousin!

There's Sci-Fi Bob Birman, the king of The Paychotronics Film Shows! I've hosted his shows of film oddities and he's always there without being asked to help in anyway he can. He produces great one of a kind lobby cards and clocks for my live shows which I give away as prizes!

- If you had to experience being chased by a movie monster or movie maniac in reality, who would you prefer to run from your life from?

A movie monster, no doubt. There's nothing scarier than an insane human!

- What do you say to young people trying to get into the same industry?

If you love horror films and want to share them with others who do as well, do it!

- Being that the theme for this issue is Christmas, do you have any favorite Christmas stories?

I've always been a big fan of the documentary Santa Claus Conquers the Martians. I thought it was a great cinematic account of that dark time in history. It was a close call, but we finally got the big guy back without launching interplanetary war! The Cuban Missile Crisis was nothing compared to the Martian Santa Abduction!

Wait, that was a documentary? Wasn't it?

Friend Lord Blood-Rah at
www.facebook.com/lordbloodrah

See Lord Blood-Rah's Tremulous Trailers at
www.youtube.com/user/lordbloodrah

Hear Lord Blood-Rah's Nerve Wrackin' Auditorium at www.drunkenzombie.com





Photographer: Laura

Jewelry: Atelier Gothique

Dress: Susie's Sewing

Makeup: Deanna Roberts

Model / Hair: Erica Furness





photographer: **Angela Martin | REdbOOTs photography & design**
model: **Anja Maye**

hairstylist: **Caroline Sugden | Hair by Cherry on Top**

theatrical media makeup: **Holly Smith**

stylist: **Natalie Alice**

dress: **Carlingford Vintage Bazaar**

floral accessories: **The Posy Parlour**

location: **Lisburn, Northern Ireland**

story written by: **Charlotte Newton**





THE LISBURN CASTLE GHOST

Tales of the Supernatural and Paranormal are generally synonymous with a sense of unknowing-uncertainty that is naturally accompanied by fear or disbelief. For many, stories of ghosts and spirits are taboo subjects, reserved only for the occasional slumber party, but for others they are a doorway into the past, romanticised legends of the once living.

The Lisburn Castle Gardens, renovated grounds of a formerly grand manor, signify the existence of the apparent veil between the living and dead. It sets the stage for a perpetual account of a young woman who fell in love with the idealistic tranquillity of Northern Ireland in the 17th Century.

An illustration of feminism, Anne Finch was highly educated in both languages and Philosophy. Her unique take on rationalist philosophical thinking inspired notable figures such as Leibniz and she was assumed to be on equal terms, intellectually, with men of that era.

She married into the Conway family in 1651 and was brought to the family castle in Lisburn, hoping that the clean Irish air would cure her migraines. Cursed with these severe pains from the age of twelve, Anne had sought after extensive remedies, from faith healing to Phlebotomy, without success. She was an open believer of the supernatural, having claimed to have seen a ghost in the cas-

tle gardens, and many of her endeavours reflected this. A prominent attempt being where moss was scraped from the skulls of men that had been slain in battle, crudely recovered from bodies scattered in the forests after the 1641 rebellion, in hope that through their spirits she would be cured. Anne's optimism appeared to have worked. She stated that this obscure method had restored health for weeks, ridding her of the constant torture that she had suffered for so many years. Unfortunately it was short-lived and Anne Conway remained plagued with migraines until her death at the age of forty-seven.

As beautiful in death as she was when alive, Anne's grieving husband, the Earl of Conway, had his wife preserved in wine and placed in a glass-windowed coffin. She would be shipped to him in England, where he could admire her immortal beauty. A suitable farewell to such an influential figure.

The story of Anne Conway is indeed a tragic one, and yet while her body remains condemned to the darkness of history, part of her is said to

have held on to the corporeal world.

Legend has it that Anne Conway was so infatuated with the exquisite Lisburn Castle that she promised, even after death, that she would adopt the form of a black cat, enabling herself to keep a watchful eye over her beloved gardens.



One account, decades after Anne Conway's death, evokes a more startling image shrouded in mystery. A young boy was said to have been playing in the castle grounds when Anne's ghost materialized in front of him. Stricken by unimaginable fear, the boy ran towards his mother who was waiting by the gates. Creeping along the walls the ghostly figure stalked him across the gardens, warning that she would al-

ways be protecting the grounds in her feline form.

To this day there are still black cats seen wandering the Lisburn Castle Gardens, guarding the magnificence of the past while symbolizing the beliefs of a gifted young woman who had come to call Ireland her home.







* * All Saints' Day * *

ANGELA MARTIN | REDFOOTSPHOTOGRAPHY&DESIGN

CAROLINE SUGDEN | *This is Us* | Styling

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out of the world's different uses of the word "religion" correctly. That gets closer to reality. There are many different religious and irreligious histories, and past histories of religious freedom.

newspaper advertising houses up for sale throughout the country accompanied in each issue.

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ILLUSIONS

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Photographer-Retoucher : Rupa Kurnarova

Designer-Stylist-Model-MUA-Hair : Alex Ma



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Drink of the Month

The White Walkers. This menacing race of villains has the reputation of killing everything it's path. They can even reanimate the dead and turn them into lethal zombies who kill at their bidding. So aptly so, this drink is strong, biting and snowy white. The perfect pick for December.

2 ounces dry gin

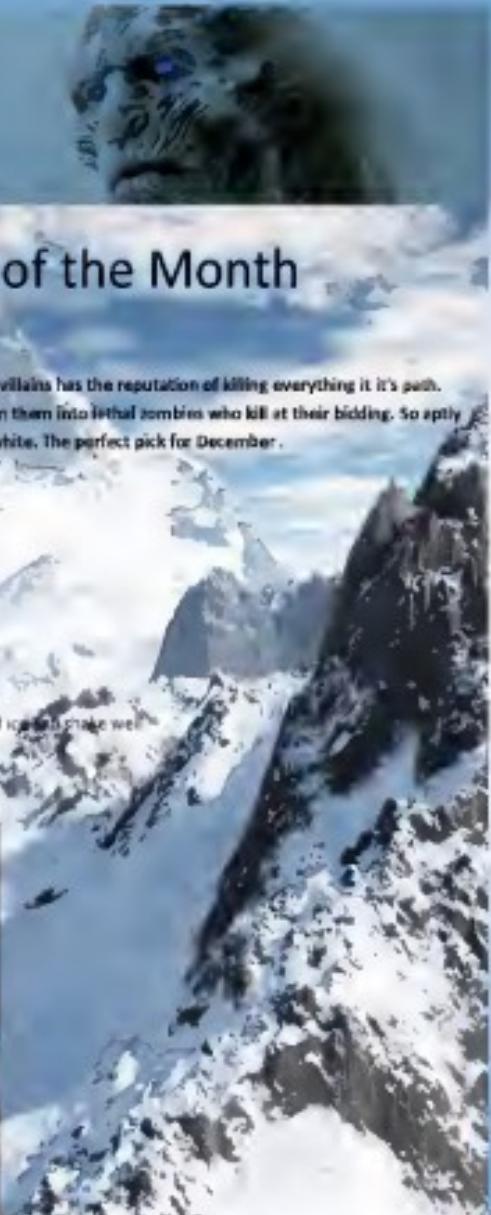
1 ounce Johnny Walker

1/2 ounce Cointreau™

1/2 ounce lemon juice

1 egg white

Add all ingredients into a cocktail shaker. Add ice and shake well. Strain into a chilled glass and enjoy.





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December 2013 Costume Contest Winner Janey Paul AkA Lucky J.

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URBAN LEGEND:

RONEY'S POINT

Several years ago in the early 90's, I attended Wheeling Jesuit College in Wheeling, West Virginia which is now a university. During my time there, I ended up living in the "hill" apartments during my senior year. My roommate that year was Adam from New Jersey who had an intense love of heavy metal music. We shared that apartment with five other students.

It was getting close to Halloween and the local newspaper ran an article of "most haunted local legends and unsolved mysteries" of the area. One place that caught our eye in the article was an abandoned tuberculous hospital/asylum in the hills near Triadelphia, WV called Roney's Point. The article detailed how the state of the place had become before the place had burned down. There were legends that a doctor had become influenced by a dark occult and had been doing cruel experiments on the patients as part of devil worship rituals. It was said beyond the gate, there were trees spaced evenly apart. This is where the patients' bodies were placed. It was said, after a flood a few years back, many bodies were washed up. There was a major fire that destroyed part of the facility and a lot of people died that night.



Being young and in a small college, we always had our eye on the lookout for something "new" to do. Adam and I showed the article to Joe, a good friend of ours who lived in the dorms on campus. We immediately thought we needed to go. We rallied the rest of our roommates together with the article and began planning that evening's excursion. After classes were done for the day, we quickly gathered supplies, including many flashlights and miner's hats and waited for sunset.

As the time came to leave, Adam listened to his Javette song on the Guns N' Roses Use Your Illusion II CD and a look of fear came over his face. Suddenly he snapped out of whatever trance had a hold on him and joined us at our vehicles for the night drive.

We made our way through some quiet back roads to a hillside road with a gate across it. A couple of us got out of our cars and opened the gate. We then proceeded up a very long, steep bumpy road. Parts of the road looked like it was surrounded with eerie corn fields that went on for eternity. Then suddenly

around a sharp bend, it looked as if we had entered the woods, many trees everywhere, including the evenly spaced trees along the roadway!

We finally get to the top of the hill, and an old, abandoned graffiti covered shell of a building was there. Windows were broken, doors removed, and parts of it appeared to have collapsed. Plants were overgrown all over the site. We quickly got out of our cars. A couple of our roommates agreed to stand guard watching for anything else that may be up there.

We went in exploring the old building and rooms where once patients had been. Parts of the building were colder than others. Debris from fallen parts of the building were everywhere. I remember looking out on of the broken windows and thinking I saw something in the woods moving in the near distance. Probably was just a deer. Something else that caught my eye was how thick some of the doors inside had been. What required doors so thick?

There was a second level and the staircase looked very unstable. Adam and Joe decided to check it out. I tried to warn them to be careful, parts of this structure could collapse.

We waited about fifteen minutes and suddenly Joe came back downstairs in a hurry. "Something is up there!" he gasped, trying to catch his breath. We called out to Adam and no response. The rest of us went up the stairs to try to find him but he was nowhere to be seen. We also could not find the noise that terrified Joe.

We called out and screamed his name for what seemed like hours. Another one of our roommates, Jason, left in his car and called the police for help. The police questioned us and a hunt for Adam pursued. It was like he had simply vanished.

The next day the local community and several college students came out to look for Adam. Dogs sniffed the grounds and woods surrounding the facility. Several days passed and the man-hunt was finally called off. Adam was gone.

Several weeks later, it was winter break at the college, but I just could not get into the Christmas spirit knowing Adam just disappeared. I tried to take my mind off of it and went shopping. I wrapped up some clothes including an "Ozzy Osbourne" T shirt and a Santa hat I bought from the mall and took a drive back up to Roney's Point during the daylight on Christmas Eve by myself. I addressed the gifts to Adam and left them in front of the steps to the building. I even left some Christmas cookies and candy canes in a stocking. I could not go in; it felt way too creepy, especially being all alone. When I drove away, I thought I saw something looking out of one of the windows from the facility. The face from what I

could tell, looked like him, but it looked stitched up, bloody and dirty. I stopped the car and looked up and it was gone. I drove away as fast as I could to the police station to let them know what I had seen.

A policeman came back up to the asylum with me. The gifts were gone and the treats had been nothing but crumbs. The policeman reprimanded me and told me I was to never come back up here. "Adam is gone and you should accept that. This is a state owned facility and you will go to jail for trespassing charges if you return!" I never went back, even though I know what I saw.

Years went by and the local newspaper had printed its "local legends" article again. A new one was on the list. It is said around the time between Halloween and Christmas, there is a creature that lives in the hills of West Virginia that comes out of Roney's Point. It wears a filthy Santa Hat and a Bark at the Moon T Shirt, the locals call the thing "Ozzy", or "Krampus". It feeds on small animals and local hunters have tried unsuccessfully through the years to trap him. It tries to break in local residents homes and steal Christmas cookies. So on Christmas Day, when the cookies and milk are gone, don't just assume it was Santa that visited that night!!!





AN INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE -
COUNT GORE DE VOL

Chiller 31 had an amazing opportunity to converse with the legendary Dick Dyszel, also known as one of his on many screen characters, Count Gore de Vol, a TV icon who hosted Creature Feature from 1973 to 1987 on WDCA in Washington D.C. He became the founding inductee into the "Honor Host Hall of Fame".

How did he get into this career?

Actually Dick had no ambition of becoming a horror host, but unexpected opportunities arose that led him to become the Count. While working at UHF station WDXR-TV in Paducah, Kentucky, he was reviewing the Night of Terror Packages at 2 AM, when he jokingly spoke with a Transylvanian accent. The General Manager overheard him and hired him on the spot to be the new station horror host known as "M.T. Graves". Dick had an instant costume for the character, as he had bought his own tuxedo from going to several proms in school and his girlfriend at that time had made him a cape.

He anchored the news from 10 PM to 10:20 PM, then ran as fast as he could, changing into his costume, and whitening his face, so he could be back on the air in person at 10:30 PM as M.T. Graves. In 1971 and '72 he also worked as the station's Bozo The Clown. Needless to say, he was soon working over 100 hours a week and was getting burned out. At this point he realized the best thing he could do was quit the station.

Dick decided at this point that he and his wife were going to go to Europe and take a well de-

served break. As he was getting ready to leave however, a new opportunity came calling for him at WDCA-TV. They begged him to shorten his trip and presented him with a new show, as Bozo The Clown in Washington D.C. While doing that show, his character M.T. Graves made several guest appearances. His schedule became full once again as he was once again the actor of multiple characters. He made the transition from Graves to Count Gore de Vol and was also another character that aired: Ultra-man and other



Sci-Fi shows called Captain 20

Dick explained he was part of the "second wave" of horror hosts, the first wave being around 1967. At that time the news was on the air for 15 minutes and the rest of the time was syndicated programming, where they aired Universal Shock Packages. The second wave came out in the late 60s, 70s, and 80s. He was in the company of famous hosts such as Svenghalie from the Cleveland area, Chilly Billy from the Pittsburgh Area, and Elvira from California. Interestingly, his only exposure to Elvira at that time was her appearance in the Coors Commercials, and he learned about her show only by asking an interviewer.

from TV Guide. Later he would induct her into the Horror Host Hall of Fame.

Dick was a huge TV buff his entire life. At one point in 1996, he enrolled in an acting course and kept his identity secret in school, further mastering his improv skills. He always wanted to be the Orson Wells of Television. His inspirations were 'Marvin' (Terry Bennett) horror host from 1957-1959, Ernie Kovacs, Jackie Gleason, and The Three Stooges.

What is he doing now?

Dick is very technically inclined and has stayed current in each wave of media and internet technology. In 1998 he brought the Count to the Internet and was the first horror host to present a weekly web show. Over the years, he has moved Creature Feature presentations from streaming audio to Real Media Video to now Vimeo Video. He also has an active DJ business that he started in 1995.



He has had the opportunity over his career to work with many celebrities including Bruce Campbell, Dee Wallace, Ken Foree, Marylin Chambers, Anne Francis, Victoria Carlson, Bill Moseley, and Sid Haig, just to name a few! His only regret was not getting to interview Christopher Lee. (Mr. Lee, if you are an avid Chiller 31 reader, please get in contact with the Count.)

What does the Count think about Christmas?

Being that this is the Christmas issue of Chiller 31, we asked him about the holiday. The Count responded, "Vampires have no business celebrating Christmas!" he simply ignores it. Christmas is a happy holiday and vampires are not happy creatures! He said he couldn't even recommend a good Christmas horror film. The ones that came to mind are just not good!

Instead, he focuses on the next holiday, New Year's Eve. He had several New Year's Eve shows throughout the years, and each year he tries to get it on with the Countess Von Stauffenberg, a recurring character on the show, but each year, something always happens. She either runs off with a celebrity or gets taken by the count's evil henchmen. It never quite worked out for the count!!

Dick is writing a book on the subject of wanting to be a horror host. He said the first thing is to ask yourself 'Why?' If your answer is fame or fortune, he advises you to close the book. The answer needs to be for the love of movies and characters and to be in it for the long haul. The key is



to stay active, be conscious of your legacy and have a vision for how you will be remembered.

So what do vampires fear? Dick said the scariest monster to this day that he has ever seen was Ridley Scott's 1979 'Alien.'

You can watch the latest Creature Feature and catch up with the count at <http://www.countcore.com>

You can also watch the latest Vimeo videos on <https://vimeo.com/channels/countcore>





Photography : Courtney Bedillion

Model: Alicia Marie Marcucci



Special Effects/Makeup: Corinne Erickson

Photo Assistant: Patrick Bedillion



From the creative mind of Kerri Jean Photography and her team comes a unique interpretation of the classic Charles Dickens tale, *A Christmas Carol*.

The photographer's story:

I am an inquisitive admirer of nature in all forms. I dabble in a variety of subjects from art to wildlife to avant garde to fashion photography. I passionately chase these themes to capture the best within the frame of my camera. The aura of capturing the perfect moment enchant me to be on my toes to get the best photo! The photographer in me, without a doubt, is born out of fascination towards art. My passion for photography started to blossom at an early age. After spending nine years in the military, I received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management. I felt destined to be an entrepreneur in business. However, I volunteered to take portraits for families with low income. After receiving the photos, a young woman called and said that she didn't know that she was so beautiful. That lit a fire in me.

Everyone is beautiful in their own way. Therefore, a photography assignment gives me immense fulfillment as a photographer, serves as a creative outlet, and provides an opportunity to learn new things. I believe in taking challenges!

Models: Tierney Lloyd, Adam Bassett, Jackson Johnson, Spenser Johnson, Sarah Courtney

Makeup and Hair: Chevy Johnson

Wardrobe: Julie Powers, Heavenly Creations

Photographer: Kerri Jean



The Ghost of Christmas Past first showed Scrooge his old boarding school. Ebenezer packed his bag in anticipation of his father's arrival every Christmas, but his father never came. The Ghost reminded him of how his heart had been hardened because his father only valued his worth to the family business.



The Ghost of Christmas Present transports Scrooge around the city showing him scenes of festivity which Scrooge views as wonderful humbug. The last visit is to the home of his assistant, Bob Cratchit.

At the home of Bob Cratchit, Scrooge hesitantly peers into the window and sees the family enjoying Christmas dinner despite their meager means. Scrooge also notices Tiny Tim, who uses a crutch and is very ill. Scrooge asks if Tim will die and the Ghost grimly states that "If these shadows remain unaltered by the Future, the child will die."





George placed with the Guest of Christmas Yet to Come to see some tenderness connected with death. To his rebuke, the Guest said in the passing of Tim Tim, which was preventable and it only provided sufficient money to his assistant, Bob Cratchit, to provide Tim with adequate treatment.

"I am not the man I was. I will not be the man I used to be but for this ultimatum, I will show no fear, if I am put all right! That the Guest's said appears to shake ... Good Spirit! Your nature intercedes for me! And pity me! Assure me that I may set George from shadow you have shown me, by keeping me yourself! I will answer Christmas in no heart, and try to keep it all the man I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future ... The spirit of all! There shall never suffice me, I will not shut out the lesson that thou teachest. Oh, tell me I may forgive every wronging on thy score!



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APP REVIEW:

A Christmas Carol – Starlight StoryBook



This is an older app from 2011 that is based on the Charles Dickens story *A Christmas Carol*.

Features:

Rewritten in dramatic poetry, both animated and narrated with optional auto-turned pages.

There are 34 separate illustrations, all new and specially animated for a magical reading experience.

Tap the red ribbon to easily jump to any part of the book, or to turn off the auto-page turning and the narration.

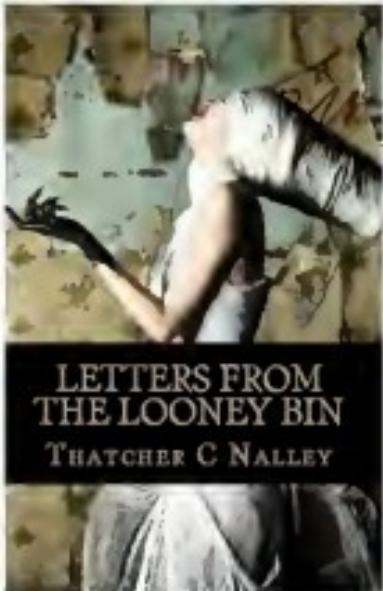
This app has very well done narration, music, illustrations and animation. It is short enough that it makes it the perfect app to show to a young child to get them entertained by the classic story. The animations should amaze young and old alike. It is 34 pages of text and 34 pages of illustrations. You can access the options to turn off the narration and read it yourself!

This is a definite recommend for someone who wants to share this great classic with their kids.

You can get a copy in the App Store for your iPhone/iPad for free. There is also an Android version available.

Screenshot:





LETTERS FROM THE LOONEY BIN

THATCHER C NALLEY

In the late 1970s the Emerson Rose Asylum became completely abandoned - all the patients, doctors, staff vanished and were never seen again. The events circling this mass exodus have been one of the most baffling disappearances in history...until now. For hidden deep inside a tattered asylum mattress a stack of bundled letters were found. These letters, all addressed to the pseudonym Dr. Quill, and all written by the patients as they document the final days of the Emerson Rose Asylum.

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City of Nightmares.
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Photographer: [Jesse J. Williams](#)

Model: [Brittany Murphy](#)

MUA: [Deanna Rose](#)

Perf: [Synthesis](#), [Scentique](#)

Wardrobe: [Dolce & Gabbana Couture](#)

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THE HAUNTING SIDE OF CHRISTMAS

I am sure all of you are familiar or have heard the song *The Most Wonderful Time of the Year* by Andy Williams. There is a chorus in the song that says "There'll be scary ghost stories and tales of the glories of Christmases long, long ago". Ghost story telling is one of the lost traditions from time gone by. Sure today we have all of the traditions like setting

up a tree, hanging our stockings, exchanging presents, but there were customs that were lost for most people. Let me start by telling you the interesting history behind Christmas; it can be rather creepy. To understand a little bit, we have to go way back. Christmas was not always called "Christmas", it originated with the pagan winter festivals. These festivals

celebrated the death of light signifying the longest night of the year.

In addition to being the longest night, Winter Solstice was also traditionally held to be the most haunted time due to its association with the death of the sun and light. It was the one night of the year, besides Halloween, when the barrier between the worlds of the living and the deceased was thinnest. On Christmas Eve, ghosts could walk the earth and finish unsettled business, as told by the apparition of Marley and the three ghosts in Charles Dickens' Christmas masterpiece.

With all of the traditions and rituals that have survived through the generations, such as yule logs, holly berries and Father Christmas himself, the Victorian custom of recounting blood-curdling ghost stories with friends and family around the fire on Christmas Eve has been almost completely forgotten. Ghost stories were as much a part of Christmas for the Victorian English as Santa Claus is to everyone else. The tale, *A Christmas Carol*, has still withheld the test of time and is still very popular and told every Christmas Eve today either through film or readings to our children at bedtime. It tells of four Christmas ghosts breaking the barrier to visit Scrooge. It is one of the best telling of ghostly Christmas encounters of all times.

Another example of spooky holiday customs, is the legends that have been around for centuries. Tales of Christmas demons and the like. One such legend is the very scary European story of Santa Claus' companion Krampus. It was said this demon's duty was to kidnap and terrorize unruly children. It's a tradition in Germany for young men to dress up like Krampus and scare people during the first two weeks of December.

Another legend that is sure to cause fright is the legend of Belsnickel who was thought to visit unruly children as well, to scam them into behaving themselves. Some even say he takes back the toys delivered on Christmas day if children misbehave. A far cry from the threat of just getting coal for Christmas. This legend is still told today and popular among the Pennsylvania Dutch community.

If you visit the Ukraine during Christmas, you'll instead see spiders on the Christmas tree. Those from a Ukrainian background traditionally decorate their trees with spider webs instead of tinsel. This is a sign of good luck.

So if you think telling scary tales or watching scary movies at Christmas is strange, just remember all of the stories and traditions that are still alive today.

UNTIL NEXT TIME
JUST CHILL.



CHILLER 31

MAGAZINE